

FIFTEEN BUILDINGS FALL UNDER BAN OF THE INSPECTORS

Busy Week Put in By
Mr. Ashford and
Assistants

CRUSADE UPON HOVELS

A Dozen More Insanitary
Structures Listed for
Condemnation.

"I find this dwelling to be in the last stages of dilapidation, without proper sewerage, and a menace to health. I recommend, therefore, that steps be taken to have it formally condemned and demolished."

This brief statement and recommendation, surcharged with meaning for those who understand its import, usually supplies the foreword of an official action, finally resulting in some official dwelling being wiped from the District map.

Active work, looking to the ultimate cleaning up of all the numerous insanitary, unwholesome, and disease-breeding dwellings housing the sordid poor of both white and black, now is being vigorously pushed by Building Inspector Snowden Ashford, Capt. William Kelly, assistant to Commissioner John Biddle, and Health Officer W. C. Woodward, with Roy E. Haynes as secretary, all comprising the board of condemnation of insanitary buildings. Since the creation of the board, the object of which is virtually to set as a first court of judgment over the structural or health conditions of any building in the city, more than 400 buildings have been inspected, with the result that fifty-six have so far been condemned as being unfit for habitation. Many of this number already have been actually torn down, and more will follow when the Court of Appeals has decided questions concerning the rights of owners.

Fifteen Buildings Under Ban.

This last week has been a particularly busy one for the board. The members have made five inspections in various sections of the city, have witnessed the passing of fifteen as condemned, and have issued orders for the demolition of fifteen as ever disgraced the city's face, according to Secretary Haynes, and have in addition prepared a dozen others no less unfit for human habitation for condemnation this week. Seven of the demolished dwellings were located in Van alley, a miserable quarter, located between Third and Fourth and a-half, M and N streets southwest, depicting the worst characteristics of slum life. It was against these dwellings that the Associated Charities long waged a campaign of extermination, and that the board has finally accomplished this result has brought forth many expressions of satisfaction from the charity workers whose tasks were made manifold by the character of these dwellers, unkempt, unwholesome, and uncaring. Another row of eight equally undesirable shacks, all leaky, some occupied and others abandoned on Volta place northwest, fell under the efforts of the board. Evidence of the board's wisdom in working the destruction of these Volta place houses is shown in an accompanying illustration. This structure, anything but worthy of the purpose it served, was the home of a colored family for several years. They could only when the board declared the shack beyond the possibility of repair.

Decay in Ford's Row.

Structures in Ford's Row, also shown with this story, were demolished at the board's direction. They all represented the worst types of decay and, according to Secretary Haynes, probably would have fallen because of their own sheer weight, if left standing this winter. The houses were numbered 232-04-05 Ford's place, near Whitney avenue and Eleventh street northwest, and were within a stone's throw of a block of fine residences.

Another undesirable spot, described by the social and charity workers as "a sewer of vice and crime," which the board especially desires to remove is Bladen's alley, the dwellers of which have long been the disturbing element of the neighborhood bounded by M and N Ninth and Tenth streets northwest. This alley was the scene of the crime for which Charles Edward Grant, the negro murderer of his mistress, Eva Barnes, on Friday paid the death penalty on a scaffold at the District jail. Similar crimes have been bred in its precincts. In none of the dwellings already inspected and condemned, Mr. Haynes says, were found any hall-rooms and few contained proper sewerage disposal or anything but the very crudest toilet facilities.

All the insanitary condemned buildings are photographed by Mr. Haynes. The illustrations are considered invaluable by the board when presented in court at the legal proceedings necessary to work the final destruction of the insanitary structures.

BANK EXCHANGE FIGURES CONTINUE GRATIFYING

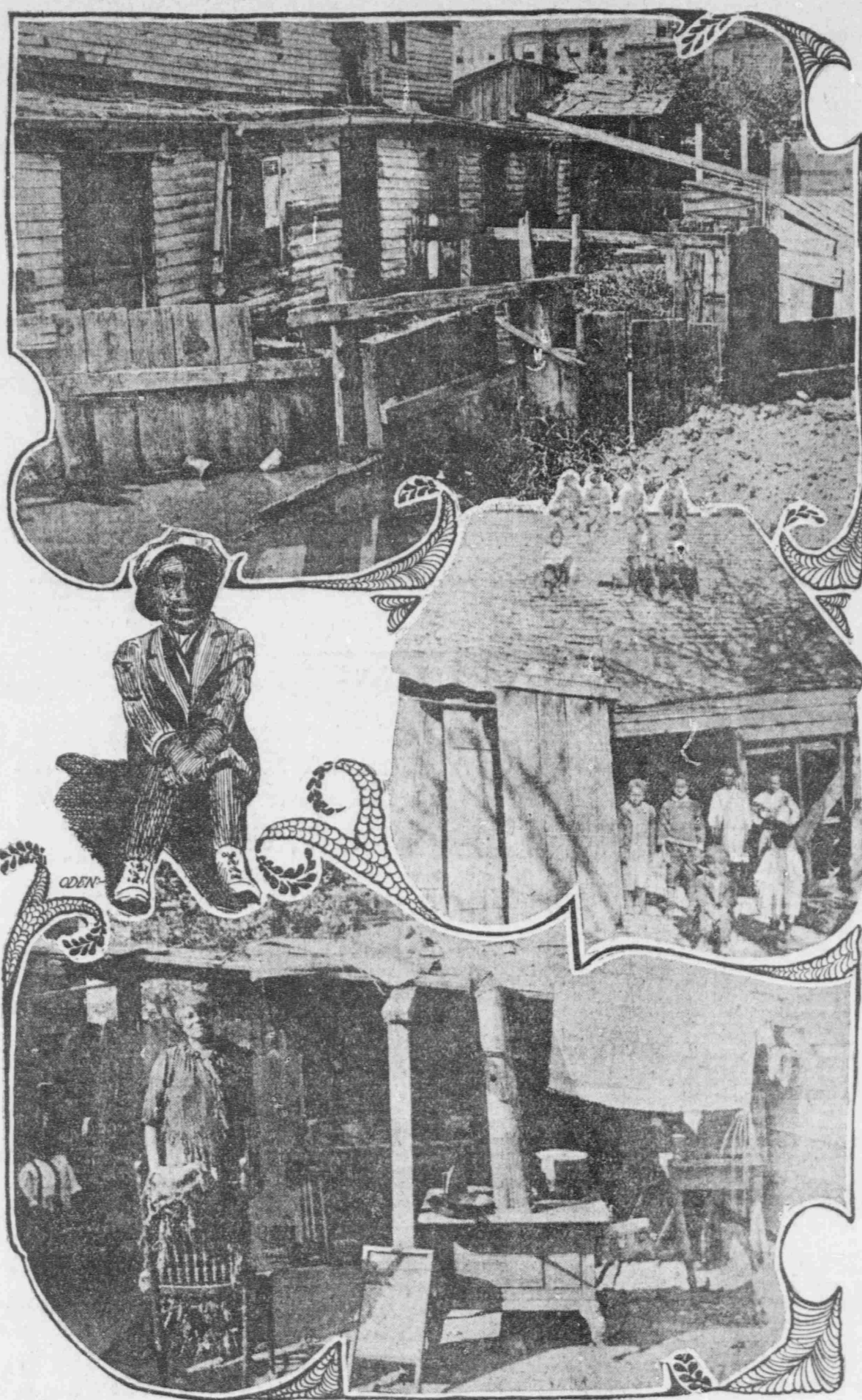
Bank clearings continue close to record figures and reflect a very large volume of settlements through the banks, total exchanges this week at all leading cities in the United States being \$3,544,000,000. There is a small loss compared with the same week of last year, due almost wholly to the loss in exchanges at New York city, where the comparative inactivity in stock market operations has reduced settlements through the New York banks materially. Nearly all other cities report an increase in the total being 4.7 per cent greater than last year and 13 per cent in excess of the corresponding week of 1904.

SANTA FE ROAD ORDERS EXTENSIVE EQUIPMENT

The Santa Fe management announce extensive purchase of new equipment for the coming year. Orders now in foot up 5,500 freight cars, 100 cabooses, seventy-five passenger cars and fifty engines, for delivery mainly in April, May and June.

Of the new freight cars 1,500 will be gondolas, 400 ballast, 500 drop-bottom stock, 2,500 box and 500 refrigerator. The passenger cars will comprise twenty first-class coaches, twenty second-class coaches, twenty electric-lighted and built by the Pullman company. Ten baggage and five postal cars complete the list.

SQUALID HOVELS CONDEMNED



The above are views of insanitary shacks in different parts of the city, condemned and demolished through the Board of Condemnation of Insanitary Buildings. The first picture shows a hovel in Ford's row, within a stone's throw of fine residences. The second cut depicts a ruined shanty infesting Georgetown, while the third illustration proves into what dilapidation a hut in the southwest section had fallen.

Boy Husband Deserts Bride, Aged Thirteen

Youthful Couple Walked
Into Raleigh Ragged
and Penniless.

NORFOLK, Va., Nov. 17.—Mrs. Amanda Carter, just thirteen years old and a duly wedded wife, abandoned in Raleigh, N. C., by her sixteen-year-old husband, has been sent to her home in Tyty, Ga., by the Sunshine Society of Raleigh. She tells a sad story. Regularly married in her mother's home, she says her husband was then only a school boy, and claimed to have been born in Cuba.

The couple for some reason, she will not explain left their home and wandered North, going to Raleigh about three months ago. They did not arrive by train, but walked into town penniless and ragged.

Charitable people found work for the

ing at Raleigh the couple suffered great privations, often without food and sleeping under the open air or in barns.

VIRGINIAN DIES FROM FALL.

BRISTOL, Va., Nov. 17.—Joseph M. Dooley, a Bristol business man who was injured by falling down an elevator shaft here yesterday, died today. He was forty-five years of age.

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